

# University of Michigan Law School University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository

---

Yearbooks & Class Year Publications

Law School History and Publications

---

Class of 1894

## Bulletin, no. 6

Follow this and additional works at: [https://repository.law.umich.edu/class\\_pubs](https://repository.law.umich.edu/class_pubs)



Part of the [Legal Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

"Bulletin, no. 6" (1894). *Yearbooks & Class Year Publications*. 142.  
[https://repository.law.umich.edu/class\\_pubs/142](https://repository.law.umich.edu/class_pubs/142)

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Law School History and Publications at University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Yearbooks & Class Year Publications by an authorized administrator of University of Michigan Law School Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact [mlaw.repository@umich.edu](mailto:mlaw.repository@umich.edu).

# THE BULLETIN

A leaflet issued four-monthly by the Law Class of '94, U. of M. Please send all communications to H. W. Webber, President, 52 Broadway, New York City.

No. 6

New York City, September

1921

## POLITICIANS AND THE JUDICIARY

In our preceding issue we referred to certain criticisms in Manila directed against the Supreme Court of the Philippine Islands, of which our own Professor E. Finley Johnson is a member. We are authentically informed that they were due to the fact that the Supreme Court did not agree with the politicians in a certain case in which an attempt was made to transfer a judge from one district to another against his will. They were made during Judge Johnson's visit to the United States last winter. Immediately upon his return, the person who was responsible for the criticisms called upon Judge Johnson, acknowledged the error and humbly apologized for having made them.

Judge Johnson strongly reciprocates the admiration and affection that the Law Class of '94 had and has for him. He has made a great record as a judge. His work has been largely of a constructive nature, and is a reminder of some of the tasks and problems before Chief Justice Marshall and our own Supreme Court in the early days of our federal government. He is one of the prominent men whose names were before the President from which to select a Governor General of the Philippines.

In a recent letter received from him he writes: "I remember the Class of '94 with great interest. It had some of the strongest men in it of any of the classes during the thirteen years of my connection with the University of Michigan."

"I have now been connected with the Judicial Department of the Philippine Islands for a period of more than twenty years. I was sent out here by President McKinley. I was the first Judge appointed to the judiciary of the Philippine Islands and I am now the only American remaining here who was sent out here at that period."

"During my connection with the judiciary of the Philippine Islands I

have helped to write 42 volumes of the reports of the Supreme Court. We have had to deal with some very great questions here relating to the fundamental powers of Government. The work has always been of exceeding interest to me. Of course, you will remember that we have had to deal here largely with the civil law. During the continuance of the United States Philippine Commission, which had the authority to legislate, many principles of the common law were engrafted upon the system in vogue here, so that it cannot now be said to be a civil law jurisdiction. In the interpretation and construction of the codes which we found in force here we always follow the decisions of the Supreme Court of Spain when that court had already given an interpretation, providing that interpretation is sound. When there is no decision or interpretation by the Supreme Court of Spain we follow the jurisprudence of the Supreme Court of the United States as well as that of a State when an interpretation of similar conditions and provisions of law is found. The work here has been of the greatest interest to me."

## FUTURE REUNIONS

Beginning next year, a new arrangement will be in force at the University which will probably place Commencement toward the first part of the week, i. e., on Monday instead of on Thursday, as has heretofore been the custom. This will bring Alumni Day on the Saturday preceding Commencement, with Reunion Day on Friday. The change will probably insure a very much larger attendance at reunions. It will particularly suit those attending class reunions who are unable to remain in Ann Arbor for a longer period than two days. The plan has been followed with much success at Cornell and other colleges. The readjustment will knock in the head another excuse—lack of time, for not attending our next class reunion, in 1924.



# THE BULLETIN

## CLASS OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

H. W. Webber, N. Y. City,  
Pres.-Sec.-Treas.  
F. W. Smith, Detroit, Mich.  
J. J. Sheridan, Chicago, Ill.  
R. Hartzell, Denver, Colo.  
F. E. Chamberlain, Twin Falls, Ida.  
Vice Presidents

## OUR SPECIAL COURSE PROFESSORS

Few of the Professors whose courses were optional during our law school days are still with us. They were all men who, at the time, with perhaps one or two exceptions, had already passed the meridian of life. They were masters of the subjects they taught. They had attained prominence in the juridical world principally through hard work and self sacrifice. At least one of them did not have the advantage even of an academical education. But however heavy the distinction, each carried it lightly into the lecture or class room, where his plain democratic ways endeared him to the hearts of the students.

Many of us who attended the lectures have since had reason to feel grateful. Members of the class from the mining states recall with profit and pleasure the lectures by Professor Clayberg on mining law, illustrated by the illuminated realistic model of a miniature mine, which the Professor brought on from Montana. The lectures of Dr. Ewell on medical jurisprudence must have served well those who have had occasion to practice in the criminal courts. In this connection it may be interesting to recall the autopsy conducted by Professor Ewell, in the operating amphitheatre of the medical building, at the conclusion of his course, which the medical students laconically described as "the annual law p—e." The fact is, some of the members of the class in attendance were not in normal condition for the balance of the day. And who does not recall the valuable vocal drills in connection with the course in elocution, under Professor Trueblood, which to an uninformed outsider passing the law building at

the time must have sounded like the lamentations from a menagerie?

The latest of our non-resident Professors to pass away is Dr. Bigelow, lecturer on the law of insurance, who died on May 4th, 1921. Only a few days before his death, Dr. Bigelow, through his wife, expressed pleasure in being remembered by us. Dr. Ewell is still active in Memphis, Tenn. Dr. Bigelow and Dr. Ewell were boys together and went to Memphis in 1869 to practice law; during all the intervening years they kept in touch with each other. Professor Clayberg died in San Francisco. An obituary will appear in the next issue. Professor Trueblood continues to be the head of the department of public speaking at the University. Interesting letters from Dr. Ewell and Professor Trueblood will be found in this issue.

## PROF. MELVILLE M. BIGELOW DEAD AFTER LONG ILLNESS

Professor Melville M. Bigelow, non-resident lecturer on our faculty on the law of insurance, died at Covey Hill Hospital, Brookline, Mass., on May 4th, 1921.

Dr. Bigelow was born in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, in 1846, was graduated from the University of Michigan at the age of nineteen, and two years later was admitted to the bar in Tennessee. He took up his residence in Cambridge, Mass., in 1870, and in 1879 received the degree of doctor of philosophy from Harvard; he received the degree of doctor of laws from the University of Michigan in 1912 and from Northwestern University in 1896. He was the last survivor of the first Boston University faculty and was Dean of its law school.

Dr. Bigelow was best known as the author of many standard legal text books, having written on the law of estoppel, torts, insurance, fraudulent conveyances, negotiable instruments, wills, the history of English procedure and other subjects. Some of his works are in use in law schools throughout America and in England, China, Japan, India and South America. His most recent work, "Papers on Legal History of Government" was published last year.



## THE BULLETIN

### LETTER FROM PROF. EWELL

"Dear Mr. Editor:—

It always does me good to hear from a former student. I remember the class of '94, that it was always courteous, attentive and most earnest in the acquisition of knowledge. I remember one circumstance well: I always told the students that they would find me as willing to impart instruction as they were to receive it; and I meant it. They took me at my word and the first night kept me under a rather searching quiz for I know not how long after lecture hours in the evening. I presume I should have been there till morning had not the janitor, who was not in full sympathy with their aspirations, threatened to turn off the lights if we did not disperse. I have always since had a pique against that janitor, for I really enjoyed the mental pace they set me.

All my recollections of the U. of M. are pleasant; there was not an incident that marred the pleasure of my work there during all my term. Even though some naughty medics sequestered portions of the liver of the subject on which I was performing a post mortem and deposited them in visitors' pockets, the humor of the thing overcame the melancholy tinge of the affair and I laugh, not weep, at the recollections.

My heartfelt best wishes go with you all.

Sincerely yours,

M. D. EWELL,

Law Class of '68.

Memphis, Tenn., June 7, 1921."

### LETTER FROM PROFESSOR TRUEBLOOD

"Dear Mr. Editor:—

I assure you it is pleasant to be remembered by the Law Class of '94. I have vivid recollections of your class. There were so many of you and so few of me that I wonder I was able to make much impression upon you. Things have greatly changed in my department. The Regents have furnished me a good staff of teachers and we are now dividing students into small sections not to exceed twenty-five so that they may have more individual attention. Besides, the increased requirements in the

Law College give students two years in which to do work in public speaking for credit toward an A. B. degree. So that now there are few law students taking the work, because they have finished their courses in public speaking before entering upon the study of law.

I am just finishing my thirty-seventh year in the University, and am now fourth in point of service on the campus. I trust I have done something worth while for the University. It should be your pride as well as mine that no university with which we have competed in debate and oratory during the last thirty years has been able to pass us in the number of victories to her credit.

With best wishes for the Law Class of '94, I am,

Yours most sincerely,

THOS. C. TRUEBLOOD.

Ann Arbor, Mich., May 19, 1921."

### LETTER FROM ILLINOIS

"Dear Mr. Editor:—

It is apparent that you must occasionally hear from the members of the class of '94 if the Bulletin is to be a success so I am sending this: I have been Reporter of Decisions for the Illinois Supreme Court since October 1910. Was assistant to the Reporter for about 14 years before that time.

I occasionally meet '94 boys at Springfield, when they come there to argue cases. Lott R. Herrick, of Farmer City, is there quite often as he has a large practice in Central Illinois. Others whom I meet are Sherman C. Spitzer, of the Chicago Title and Trust Co., Walter H. Kirk, of Peoria, and Allen G. Mills and James J. Sheridan, of Chicago. A. A. Partlow is Circuit Judge, his home being in Danville, Ill. George J. Gleim is a prominent attorney in Ottawa, Ill. Dan Grady has made a name for himself at Portage, Wisconsin, and ranks high among Wisconsin attorneys. I had a pleasant little visit last summer with C. J. Cole, now of Kent's Hill, Maine. He stopped here for a few hours on his way back from the Pacific Coast. His wife and daughter were with him. They made the trip by automobile and were looking well and hardy.

H. Clay Evans is located at Metropolis, Illinois. J. H. Lewman was



## THE BULLETIN

State's attorney for Vermilion county for many years. I would like to know what has become of V. O. Coltrane and C. H. Crowell. The best means I know of to obtain the information is through the Bulletin.

Very truly yours,

SAMUEL P IRWIN.

Bloomington, Ill., May 2, 1921."

V. O. Coltrane is happy and prosperous, in Springfield, Mo. We do not hear from C. H. Crowell. "Let the gentlemen stand up and speak for themselves."—ED.

### ITEMS ABOUT CLASSMATES

Our good friend, W. H. L. McCourtie, won a sensational victory at the Short Ship Circuit Races in Saginaw, Mich., in July last. His horse Herbelwyn made a new world's record for geldings over a half-mile track, for three heats, the total elapsed time being a full second faster than the previous record trotted by the horse Charley Rex in 1919, at Des Moines, Iowa. Herbelwyn's mile in 2.07 1/4 is the fastest second heat ever trotted on a half-mile track, the former record of 2.07 3/4 having been set by Harry J. S. in 1917. Herbelwyn was bred by McCourtie; he is a six year old horse, "sired by Manrico and brought out of widow Maggie, a good producing daughter of Peter the Great."

Vladimir A. Geringer, of Prague, writes: "While the duties of an American Trade Commissioner at Prague have kept me away from the United States for two years it is with fond recollection that I think of the University of Michigan and regret that circumstances have kept me away from all the reunions. The Class Directory is a splendid publication and I also enjoy reading the Bulletin. Should any Law '94 have occasion to come to central Europe within the near future, I trust he will have time enough to drop in on me at Prague."

John W. Zuber, of Columbus, Ohio, now devotes substantially all his time to the American National Fire Insurance Company, of which he is President.

William J. Landman, of Grand Rapids, served as a charter commissioner.

The Citizens' Savings & Trust Company, of which H. D. Messick is Vice-President, through its consolidation with other banks in Cleveland has become one of the largest institutions in the west.

Samuel M. Schall, in general practice in Chicago, is prominent in the A. I. O. F. F. and in the Pennsylvania Society of Chicago.

Walter S. Fulton, of Seattle, Wash., has been the successful attorney in some of the prominent criminal trials in the state.

William H. Merner has taken his son, Roland F., into co-partnership, under the name of Merner & Merner. Young Merner was graduated from the law department recently; he is also a graduate of the literary department.

Raymond G. Scott still retains his interest in athletics. He is a member of the Missouri Athletic Association and Sunset Hill Country Club.

Edwin W. Sims, of Chicago, is President of the Chicago Crime Commission.

John V. Pearson, of Spokane, is father of six children; his oldest boy served 18 months in France.

Henry C. Walters presided at a meeting of the Board of Commerce of Detroit, at which Judge Kuhn was one of the speakers; other classmates present were Clifton D. Gordon and Hedley V. Richardson.

Lewis C. O'Connor is attorney for the State Comptroller, for Livingston and Steuben Counties, New York.

All classmates will sympathize with Jay L. Hitchcock in the loss of his only son, a medical student at the university, who died on February 3.

Judge Tuttle made an address in Denver to the Michigan Alumni Association of that city.

Word has just been received of the death of our former Professor John B. Clayberg. An obituary will appear in the next number of the Bulletin.